



Summer Meals 101

What are the Summer Meals programs? They are the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the National School Lunch Program. Summer Meals provide nutritious meals and snacks to children in low-income areas during the summer months and long vacation periods on year-round schedules.

The SFSP reimburses sponsors, such as schools, local government agencies, residential and non-residential camps, and faith-based and other private, nonprofit organizations for meals served to children at eligible sites. The SSO works the same way, but is only applicable to school sponsors that participate in the NSLP during the school year, who can act as sponsors for both school and non-school sites.

Sites participating in the SFSP can be reimbursed for up to two meals or one meal and one snack per day per child at schools, churches, recreation centers, camps, playgrounds, parks and other community sites. Camps or sites that primarily serve migrant children may be approved to serve more meals.

Have questions? Check out <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/frequently-asked-questions-faqs> and get the answers to the most commonly asked questions about Summer Meals!

Check out this video that quickly explains what the USDA Summer Meal Programs are all about! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KkLGT0fRr8w>

USDA Resources

Site Supervisor's Handbook

The USDA Site Supervisor's Guide in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#) can help ensure all Program requirements are met and your sites are reimbursed for every meal you serve. The Guides are available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/handbooks>.

Partner Resources

Food Research and Action Center's Fact Sheet

For some quick facts on the summer meals program, check out: http://frac.org/pdf/sfsp_fact_sheet.pdf

State Agency Contacts

If you need additional assistance, or if you have problems with your existing sponsor, contact your appropriate State agency.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Contacts/StateDirectory.htm>



Summer Meals Toolkit

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.